

**01520**

**1992/03/16**

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Department

(E14)

AN: D920251-0484

PAGE 01 TEL AV 03847 161316Z  
ACTION NEA-01

INFO LOG-00 ACDA-15 AMAD-01 CIAE-00 CIP-01 COME-00 CTM  
DODE-00 DODE-00 EAP-01 EB-01 INRE-00 INR-01 JUSE-00  
L-03 ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 DES-09 OMB-01 PM-01  
SSD-00 STR-20 IRSE-00 TST-02 T-01 USIE-00 /058W  
-----180322 161320Z /44

O 161310Z MAR 92  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9997  
INFO ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE  
AMEMBASSY BEIJING

TEL AVIV 03847

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PARM, MCAP, MASS, ETC, IS, US, CI  
SUBJECT: MOUNTING REACTION TO ALLEGATIONS OF ISRAELI  
- ARMS TRANSFER

REF: TEL AVIV 3784

1. ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: THE ISSUE OF ALLEGED ISRAELI TRANSFERS  
AMERICAN ARMS TECHNOLOGY TO THIRD COUNTRIES HAS  
CONTINUED TO DOMINATE THE MEDIA HERE MARCH 16. WHILE  
RESERVING COMMENT -- BEYOND AN OFFICIAL DENIAL OF THE  
ALLEGATIONS -- PM SHAMIR HAS ALLOWED OTHER OFFICIALS TO

PAGE 02 TEL AV 03847 161316Z  
SCORE THE USG FOR THE LEAKS. END SUMMARY.

A BLANKET DENIAL

3. ISRAELI OFFICIALS HAVE ISSUED BLANKET DENIALS OF  
U.S. MEDIA STORIES ALLEGING IMPROPER ARMS TRANSFERS BY  
ISRAEL OF AMERICAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY.

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DEPT OF STATE APPEALS REVIEW PANEL (ARP)  
FOIA/PA  
Release  
Excise  
Deny  
Exemptions  
ARP Action Can  
Mandatory Review  
Declassify in Part  
Class. Rev/Renew  
Date  
21

United States Department of State  
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review  
Review Authority: GEHRON, W.  
Date: 04/15/96  
Case ID: 9201601

91 17 11 00 1000

[REDACTED]  
DEPUTY MINISTER NETANYAHU TERMED THE REPORTS "TOTALLY FALSE." EHUD GOL, PM SHAMIR'S SPOKESMAN, SAID THAT THEY WERE "GROULESS."

"AN ANTI-ISRAELI CAMPAIGN"  
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4. WHILE PM SHAMIR AND OTHER SENIOR MINISTERS HAVE AVOIDED COMMENT ON THE LEAKS BEHIND THE STORIES, SECOND RANK OFFICIALS HAVE TEED OFF ON THE USG. LIKUD MK ELIYAHU BEN ELISSAR, CHAIRMAN OF THE KNESSET FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE, ALLEGED THAT THE WEAPONS DIVERSIONS ALLEGATIONS WERE PART OF A USG EFFORT TO UNSEAT LIKUD IN THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS. NETANYAHU DESCRIBED THE LEAKS AS PART OF "AN OBVIOUS CAMPAIGN AIMED AT DENIGRATING ISRAEL AND SABOTAGING ITS RELATIONS WITH THE U.S." NETANYAHU WAS NOT SURE WHO WAS BEHIND THE CAMPAIGN; BUT HEALTH MINISTER OLMERT HAD "NO DOUBT" SUCH THINGS WERE NOT RAISED WITHOUT THE WILL OF A SENIOR FIGURE IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

5. ON BACKGROUND, ISRAELI OFFICIALS [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

PAGE 03

TEL AV 03847 161316Z

6. COMMENT: PM SHAMIR'S REACTION TO THE ARMS TRANSFER ISSUE THUS FAR HAS BEEN TWO-TRACK. WHILE RESERVING COMMENT -- BEYOND AN OFFICIAL DENIAL OF THE ALLEGATIONS -- HE HAS ALLOWED MORE JUNIOR OFFICIALS TO SCORE THE USG FOR THE LEAKS. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

HARROP